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promised the assistance of another medical officer, must devote much of his time to the investigation of all the conditions which exist here.

Very respectfully,

W. F. BRUNNER,

Sanitary Inspector, U. S. M. H. S.

The SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Comparative statistics of the mortality of the city of Habana for the weeks ended August 5, August 12, August 19, August 26, September 2, and September 9, 1897.

| Disease. | Week ended— | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|---------|
| | Aug. 5. | Aug. 12. | Aug. 19. | Aug. 26. | Sept. 2. | Sept. 9 |
| Yellow fever..... | 28 | 23 | 27 | 31 | 27 | 15 |
| Enteric fever..... | 21 | 20 | 22 | 24 | 16 | 17 |
| Pernicious fever..... | 14 | 13 | 8 | 17 | 13 | 12 |
| Paludal fever..... | 2 | 7 | 7 | 6 | 6 | 3 |
| Dysentery..... | 23 | 39 | 24 | 34 | 22 | 34 |
| Enteritis..... | 42 | 36 | 32 | 30 | 36 | 55 |
| Smallpox..... | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| Glanders..... | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| Diphtheria..... | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Pneumonia..... | 3 | 14 | 11 | 7 | 4 | 2 |
| Tuberculosis..... | 38 | 31 | 46 | 37 | 43 | 41 |
| From all causes..... | 306 | 317 | 342 | 332 | 302 | 326 |
| Annual ratio per 1,000..... | 79.56 | 82.42 | 88.90 | 87.88 | 78.52 | 84.76 |

Sanitary report from Santiago.

SANTIAGO DE CUBA, *September 4, 1897.*

SIR: I have the honor of submitting the following report on the sanitary condition of Santiago de Cuba for the week ended September 4:

Eighty-one deaths have been reported, of which 23 were from yellow fever, 3 from dysentery, 7 from tuberculosis, 10 from pernicious, 7 from remittent fevers, 5 from enteritis; the rest from common diseases of noncontagious character. Yellow fever is slowly increasing, and the cases now under treatment generally take a malignant form, ending in death. Dropsy from anemia is very common just now, as food is scarce and high in price, and almost beyond the means of the poorer classes. Over 2,000 people live on a five-cent dinner fare provided by charity kitchens, and beggars are as thick in the streets as the falling leaves are in the woods.

Respectfully,

Dr. H. S. CAMINERO,

Sanitary Inspector, U. S. M. H. S.

The SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

SWITZERLAND.

An antidote for snake bites.

ZURICH, SWITZERLAND, *July 15, 1897.*

From the weekly Scotchman I copy the following:

At a meeting of the Edinburgh Royal Society, Prof. T. R. Fraser read a paper on "The antivenomous properties of the bile of serpents and other animals, and an explanation of the insusceptibility of animals to the poisonous action of venom introduced into the stomach."

In his paper Professor Fraser described the results of experiments which he had conducted with the bile of the African cobra, the puff